

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TOKYO 11351 280913Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----111177 280924Z /17
O 280845Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9693

S E C R E T TOKYO 11351

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: MARR, ESTC, JA, US, UR
SUBJECT: FORESTALLING ACQUISITION OF SOVIET DEEP SEA SEARCH
CAPABILITY

REF: TOKYO 11133

SUMMARY. NEC CHAIRMAN CONCERNED ABOUT IMPLICATIONS OF
WITHDRAWING DSS-125 SYSTEM BUT NEVERTHELESS SUGGESTS
U.S. FIRM CALL FOR RETURN OF SYSTEM ON GROUND THAT
DEFECT FOUND. END SUMMARY.

1. NEC CHAIRMAN KOJI KOBAYASHI AND RIKIICHI AMAGAI
OF NEC EUROPE DIVISION CALLED ON E/C MINISTER JULY 28
TO EXPLAIN BACKGROUND OF DSS-125 TRANSACTION. THEY
TOLD US DEEP SEA SURVEY SYSTEM IS PART OF DOLS 23 MILLION
TRANSACTION UNDER WHICH NEC IS TO SUPPLY CABLE, RE-
PEATERS AND SOME SHORE INSTALLATIONS FOR TELEPHONE
CABLE ACROSS SEA OF OKHOTSK.

2. NORMALLY NEC WOULD HAVE EXPECTED TO SUPPLY ITS
OWN COMMERCIAL ULTRASONIC DEEP SEA SURVEY SYSTEM
WHICH THEY CONSIDER ADEQUATE FOR CABLE LAYING.
INCLUSION OF DSS-125 IS AT SPECIFIC REQUEST OF SOVIET
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION WHICH, NEC UNDERSTANDS,
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TOKYO 11351 280913Z

RECEIVED HYDRO PRODUCTS BROCHURES THROUGH SUMITOMO
TRADING COMPANY WHICH IS ACTIVE AGENT OF HYDRO PRODUCTS.
KOBAYASHI TOLD US THAT AT TIME ORDER WAS RECEIVED NEC
WAS RELIEVED THAT UNCONTROLLED U.S. PRODUCT WAS BEING
REQUESTED BECAUSE OBTAINING COCOM APPROVAL OF THEIR
ULTRASONIC EQUIPMENT THROUGH GOJ WAS OFTEN TIME
CONSUMING.

3. KOBAYASHI TOLD US THAT SOVIET DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING FOR MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS CAME TO JAPAN TWO WEEKS AGO FOR COORDINATION MEETING DURING WHICH EQUIPMENT WAS INSPECTED, TESTING PROCEDURES WERE AGEED UPON AND DATE OF AUGUST 20 FOR INSTALLATION WERE INCORPORATED IN SIGNED PROTOCOL. NEC IS UNDERSTANDABLY CONCERNED THAT CHANGES AT THIS POINT WILL JEOPARDIZE NOT ONLY THIS DOLS 23 MILLION CONTRACT BUT SERIES OF MAJOR TRANSACTIONS NEC EXPECTS TO CONSUMMATE IN SOVIET UNION.

4. DESPITE HIS CONCERN AT LOSSES OF FUTURE ORDERS, KOBAYASHI SUGGESTED THAT AS POSSIBLE WAY OUT OF DILEMMA, YYDRO PRODUCTS MIGHT RECALL DSS-125 SYSTEM ON GROUNDS THAT A DEFECT HAS BEEN FOUND AND THE CORRECTED VERSION WILL BE SUPPLIED.

5. COMMENT. EMBASSY IS GRATIFIED AT COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE THAT NEC IS TAKING. NEITHER WE NOR THEY OBVIOUSLY CAN PREDICT WHAT SOVIET REACTION MAY BE TO SUBSTITUTE ITEM THAT MIGHT BE SUPPLIED BUT WE BELIEVE NEC IS PREPARED TO CROSS THAT BRIDGE WHEN IT COMES TO IT. IT OCCURS TO US, HOWEVER, THAT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 TOKYO 11351 280913Z

PUBLICIZING INCLUSION OF THE SYSTEM ON MUNITIONS WILL HEIGHTEN SOVIET SENSITIVITIES AND MAKE JAPAN'S PROBLEM MORE DIFFICULT. WE HOPE THAT WITHIN OBVIOUS SECURITY CONSTRAINTS, SUBSTITUTE CAN BE DEvised THAT WILL EASE NEC'S PROBLEM.

6. EMBASSY REQUESTS PROMPT GUIDANCE.
MANSFIELD

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ACQUISITION, EQUIPMENT, OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TOKYO11351
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770270-0373
Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977077/aaaaafvn.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 14c5676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 TOKYO 11133
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1898873
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FORESTALLING ACQUISITION OF SOVIET DEEP SEA SEARCH CAPABILITY
TAGS: MARR, ESTC, JA, US, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/14c5676d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009